

I CLAIM:

1. A method of annotating a computer aided design drawing, comprising the steps of

- a. setting parameters of dimension annotations comprising one or more of dimension text, dimension lines, extension lines and termination symbols,
- b. creating a target object by selecting a length of the target object; and
- c. automatically generating dimension annotations corresponding to the target object,

whereby the dimension annotations are associated with the target object such that in response to a modification of a length or relative position of the target object, the dimension annotations associated with the target object or the dimension annotation associated with at least one adjacent object, or both, are automatically adjusted to correspond to the modification of the length or relative position of the target object.

2. The method of claim 1 further including the step:

- d. in response to a modification of the dimension annotation associated with the target object or the dimension annotation associated with at least one adjacent object or both, automatically modifying a length or relative position of the target object to correspond to the modification of the dimension annotation.

3. A computer program product for use with a computer, the computer program product comprising a computer usable medium having computer readable program code means embodied in said medium for annotating a computer aided design drawing, said computer program product having

computer readable program code means for setting parameters of dimension annotations comprising one or more of dimension text, dimension lines, extension lines and termination symbols,

computer readable program code means for creating a target object by selecting a length of the target object; and

computer readable program code means for automatically generating dimension annotations corresponding to the target object,

whereby the dimension annotations are associated with the target object such that in response to a modification of a length or relative position of the target object, the dimension annotations associated with the target object or the dimension annotation associated with at least one adjacent object, or both, are automatically adjusted to correspond to the modification of the length or relative position of the target object.

4. The computer program product of claim 3, further comprising computer readable program code means for in response to a modification of the dimension annotation associated with the target object or the dimension annotation associated with at least one adjacent object or both, automatically modifying a length or relative position of the target object to correspond to the modification of the dimension annotation.

5. A program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps for annotating a computer aided design drawing, said method steps comprising:

- a. setting parameters of dimension annotations comprising one or more of dimension text, dimension lines, extension lines and termination symbols,
- b. creating a target object by a length of the target object; and
- c. automatically generating dimension annotations corresponding to the target object,

whereby the dimension annotations are associated with the target object such that in response to a modification of a length or relative position of the target object, the dimension annotations associated with the target object or the dimension

annotation associated with at least one adjacent object, or both, are automatically adjusted to correspond to the modification of the length or relative position of the target object.

6. The program storage device of claim 5, further including a method step comprising:

d. in response to a modification of the dimension annotation associated with the target object or the dimension annotation associated with at least one adjacent object or both, automatically modifying a length or relative position of the target object to correspond to the modification of the dimension annotation.

[illegible]